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# THROUGH THE LENS



Senator Taylor watches as Governor Doyle signs a bill changing laws to require used oil filter recycling

# 4th Senate District LEGISLATIVE UPDATE SENATOR LENA C. TAYLOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 14—DECEMBER 18

## Welcome to my Legislative Update!

I'm State Senator Lena C. Taylor and this is my legislative update. If you do not wish to receive my weekly update, please let me know at [sen.taylor@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:sen.taylor@legis.wisconsin.gov).

## - Domestic Violence Takes Center Stage-

Legislation closing loopholes and protecting the victims of domestic, sexual, or gender motivated violence is taking center stage in the Senate Committee on Judiciary, Corrections, Insurance, Campaign Finance Reform, and Housing. As chair of the committee, I held the first day of committee action on this legislation in a series of hearings and committee votes.

These acts of violence are an insidious crime, but they are crimes we can stop through effective legislation, educating families and communities, and vigorous prosecution. These bills will act quickly to close loopholes and create protections for victims of domestic, sexual, or gender motivated violence. The hearing today is the first in a series of actions the Senate is taking to prepare this legislation for the January floorperiod.

The committee took testimony on 4 bills in Tuesday's hearing:

**Assembly Bill 419 – The Victim Privacy Protection Act**, authored by Rep. Mark Radcliffe (D-Black River Falls) and Sen. Taylor, creates a civil rape shield law, modeled on the Federal Rules of Evidence, which would limit a defendants' cross examination of a rape victim regarding his or her sexual history. The bill also keeps personally identifiable information about a sexual assault victim listed on a crime victim compensation form confidential.

**Senate Bill 283/Assembly Bill 410 – Closing the 72 loophole in bail orders**, authored by Rep. Ted Zigmunt (D-Francis Creek) and Sen. Taylor changes the 72-hour no-contact statute to provide that a violation of the conditional release is also a Class A misdemeanor. Currently, under state law, when a defendant contacts the victim in this time period in a way that it not intimidating or harassing, the loophole does not classify this crime as bail-jumping despite the fact it is a violation of bail.

**Senate Bill 344 – The Wisconsin Gender Hate Crimes Act**, authored by Senator Taylor and Rep. Joe Parisi (D-Madison), would make crimes motivated by a victim's gender eligible for the hate crimes penalty enhancer. 27 other states currently have hate crimes legislation in the law books for crimes motivated by gender.

In addition, the committee will take action in the future on other bills relating to domestic and sexual violence

**Senate Bill 337**, authored by Sen. Spencer Coggs (D-Milwaukee) and Rep. Therese Berceau (D-Madison) relating to: creating a civil cause of action for acts of violence motivated by gender.

**Senate Bill 380**, authored by Senator Taylor and Rep. Tony Staskunas (D-West Allis), relating to: the possession of a firearm by a person who has committed a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence and providing a penalty

**Senate Bill 381**, authored by Senator Taylor and Rep. Penny Bernard-Schaber (D-Appleton), relating to: notice of firearm prohibition when served with notice of an injunction hearing and process for surrendering firearms following the granting of certain injunctions.

## MANNERS MOMENT



**Dana World-Patterson**

Visions Etiquette Training  
visionsetiquettetraining.com

Practice being your best. Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu said, "The secret to success is whatever you do most is what you will do best". Visualize your success. What you think about, you will bring about. Excellence is your birth-right.

## FROM THE BAR

### Equity of Redemption

The right of a mortgagor (person owing on a loan or debt against their real property), after commencement of foreclosure proceedings, to "cure" his/her default by making delinquent payments. The mortgagor also must pay all accumulated costs as well as the delinquency to keep the property.

## - Kids that Santa Claus Forgot Toy Give Away -

Its Christmas time and its important that our community come together, now more than ever, to be their for each other. For many families, purchasing presents can be very difficult and sometimes not possible at all. Although its not a necessity it sure is nice to see that smile on your kid's face when he/she receives a gift. CYD is here to help do just that with the "Kids that Santa Claus Forgot Toy Give Away".

Monday, December 28, 2009

North Division High School 1011 W Center Street -3:00-6:00 PM-

Children age 12 and under only and child must have parent present to receive a gift.

## - Christmas in the Capitol -

Its that time of year again. The Capitol is especially beautiful this time of year. The Christmas tree was raised recently and now it stands adorned with beautiful lights and ornaments

If you haven't had a chance to visit our State's beautiful Capitol, you should consider doing so during the holiday season. School musical performances are common during the holidays adding an extra holiday feeling to the rotunda.

You may contact 608-266-0382 for information about tours. The building is open to the public weekdays from 8 am to 6 pm and on weekends 8 am to 4 pm. Tours can also be scheduled by calling that number for groups of 10 or more.



## - Barbering and Cosmetology Apprentice Bill Moves-

The Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs this week signed off on Senate Bill 168 relating to the supervision of barber or cosmetologist apprentices. This bill helps to streamline the laws that govern apprenticeships for those in the field of barbering or cosmetology.

A barber or cosmetologist apprentice currently has to be supervised by a licensed master. Therefore, the hours that the apprentice works must match up with those of the licensed master. This can make it extremely difficult and expensive for an apprentice to become a licensed barber or cosmetologist. Senate Bill 168 allows for any person who is licensed to supervise the apprentice. As a result, it will become easier for apprentices to become licensed and will ease the economic burdens placed on barber-shops, salons, and spas during the apprenticeship process.

This bill was recommended by the Department of Regulation and Licensing and it is expected that Governor Doyle will sign the bill. The full Senate will have the bill available for its January floorperiod, and then the Assembly will act on the bill. Many persons have called and expressed interest in this legislation. Be sure to keep checking with my office if you want updates or visit the bill's website at:

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/2009/data/SB168hst.html>

## HEALTH CORNER



*A few health tips to  
help you live smarter  
and feel better.*

**WASH YOUR  
HANDS!**

This time of year, you must be especially careful not to spread germs. It is always a good practice to wash your hands throughout the day. By taking this simple precaution you can prevent spreading and receiving germs.

## WORD OF THE WEEK

"There are pastors who won't go to people's sick beds. How can people of God turn their back on the sick, poor and hungry?"

James  
Robinson

### - Senate Meets in Extraordinary & Special Session -

This past week, the Senate met in "extraordinary" and "special" session on Wednesday in the Capitol.

An extraordinary session is called by agreement of legislative leadership. Wednesday's extraordinary session was called to take up action on drunk driving legislation. SB 66 was agreed to by both houses to increase penalties, expand treatment programs, and prevent repeat drunk driving. The bill has been a long product of negotiation and compromise, but a reachable goal was obtained on Wednesday. The Governor is expected to sign the bill.

Also on Wednesday, the Governor called the Legislature into special session to take up action on the Milwaukee TEACH Act which makes the Mayor accountable for MPS. The legislature did not act on the bills, but both houses had long discussion in caucus on this issue. Many supporters for the bill were added and I look forward to the hearing coming up on January 5th. I will post more information on that soon.

### -A Week in Jill's Eyes-



I had the opportunity to attend several public hearings concerning the health status of Wisconsin residents. I heard testimonies from individuals of expertise, community leaders and individuals speaking on behalf of their own families. However, while sitting in on the Senate Committee on Education's public hearing of the Healthy Youth Act, I listened to one community leader whose words rang louder and clearer than any other. This speaker was a Catholic priest from the Milwaukee area and yet contrary to what one might think upon seeing his clerical collar, he testified in favor of the Healthy Youth Act. Although the description of his work with one of the largest youth groups in Milwaukee and the fact that youth after youth came to him with matters of sexuality spoke to the importance of the Healthy Youth Act, it was his willingness to face reality that made the lasting impression. He had the courage to stand in front of not only a committee of Senators, but also a fiery audience and recognize that we all have ideologies, but that it is reality that needs to be addressed.

### - Holiday Potluck-

Yesterday, my office held a holiday potluck. It was not only a way to thank the interns for their hard work, but it was also a way for everyone to come together and share some laughs. Fighting every day for what we believe in is a stressful job, so to have an opportunity to sit around the office to talk, laugh and smile was a blessing.

Each staff person brought their own favorite dish, and together we made quite the spread. So much, that we ended up inviting many others from the Capitol to join us.

Thank you again, to each of the wonderful interns who worked so hard in my office helping us to do all that we do. I couldn't have done a darn thing without the interns and my staff.



## Team Taylor



**Eric Peterson**  
Chief of Staff



**Deidra Edwards**  
Executive Assistant



**Alan Charles**  
Research and Policy Advisor



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Office Manager

**WE ARE HERE TO  
SERVE!**

**CALL ON US AS  
YOU NEED!**

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## Community Events

**What:** Kids that Santa Claus Forgot Toy  
Give Away

**When:** Monday, December 28, 2009

**Where:** 1011 W. Center Street  
3:00-6:00 PM

**Info:** Children Age 12 and under only.  
Child must be accompanied by adult  
to receive gift

**What:** 'Tis the Season, Sky  
Viewing

**When:** Tuesday, Dec 15, 17, 18  
7:00 PM

**Where:** Wauwatosa West High  
School 11400 W. Center Street  
St

**Info:** See the winter skies from  
the high school planetarium

If an organization you belong to has an event you feel should be included in  
the Community Events section please [e-mail](#) me.

Do you have a computer? **Do you need help with food, prescriptions, or other  
services?** Use [www.access.wi.gov](http://www.access.wi.gov) to see if you and your family are eligible for a  
variety of state-sponsored services designed to assist citizens in procuring essential  
resources.

## Useful Resources

**Child Support Enforcement**  
414-278-5160

**Elder link**  
414-289-6874

**Governor Doyle**  
414-227-4344

**Employment Ways to Work  
Program**  
414-906-2820

**Senior Care Insurance**  
1-800-657-208

**Senior Law**  
(414) 278-1222  
(414) 278-7722

**Energy Assistance**  
414-906-2800

**Rent Assistance**  
414-286-5678

**Coalition of Wisconsin Aging  
Groups Prescription Drug  
Assistance**  
1-866-456-8211

**Food Assistance**  
414-773-0211

**Bureau of Child Welfare**  
414-220-SAFE

**W-2**  
1-800-722-2295

**City of Wauwatosa**  
414-479-8900

**GED Program**  
414-264-6888

**Milwaukee Common Council**  
414-286-2221

**City of Glendale**  
414-228-1700

**Badger Care Insurance**  
1-800-362-3002

**US Congresswoman  
Gwen Moore**  
414-297-1140

**SENATE CONTACTS  
Sergeant-at-Arms Office**  
608-266-1801

**Milwaukee County Economic  
Support**  
414-289-6000

**US Senator Russ Feingold**  
414-276-7282

**General County Resources**  
Dial 2-1-1

**Wisconsin Foreclosure Hotline**  
414-278-1240  
**Medicaid**  
1-800-291-2002

**US Senator Herb Kohl**  
414-297-4451

or  
1-866-211-3380